

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on March 12, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)
Rep. Duane Ankney, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Hal Jacobson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Gary Branae (D)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)
Rep. William J. Jones (R)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)
Rep. Alan Olson (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Scott Sales

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary
Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: SB 117, SB 136, SB 181, SB 359
Executive Action: SB 136, HB 797

HEARING ON SB 359

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:06 Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D), SD 47, opened the hearing on SB 359, Revise horse racing board members/move to Dept. of Agriculture.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:26 Sherry Meador, Representative of the Montana Horse Racing Task Force

00:07:41 Dale Mahlum, President of the Governor's Task Force on Horse Racing in Montana

EXHIBIT(sth52a01)

00:13:56 Paul Pryor, President of the Montana Horse Racing Association

00:14:53 Sen. Joe Tropila

00:15:38 Darrell Garoutte

00:16:29 Larry Jordan

00:17:07 Tom Williams

Opponents' Testimony:

00:18:46 Bob Brastrup, Member, Board of Horse Racing

EXHIBIT(sth52a02)

Informational Testimony:

00:28:42 Joel Clairmont, Department of Agriculture

00:28:57 George Harris, Acting Executive Officer, Board of Livestock

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:30:01 Rep. Hendrick

00:30:42 Sen. Cocchiarella

00:31:43 Rep. Hendrick

00:32:01 Sen. Cocchiarella

00:32:47 Rep. Olson

00:33:16 Mr. Brastrup

00:33:33 Rep. Olson

00:33:44 Mr. Brastrup

00:34:22 Rep. Olson

00:34:35 Mr. Brastrup

00:35:42 Rep. Dickenson

00:36:25 Mr. Brastrup

00:39:00 Rep. Dickenson

00:39:40 Ms. Meador
00:42:12 Rep. Dickenson
00:42:19 Mr. Pryor
00:44:03 Rep. Dickenson
00:45:14 Mr. Pryor
00:45:21 Rep. Ingraham
00:46:21 Mr. Clairmont
00:47:32 Rep. Jacobson
00:48:24 Ms. Meador
00:50:45 Rep. Jacobson
00:51:02 Ms. Meador
00:51:21 Rep. Small-Eastman
00:51:38 Mr. Pryor
00:52:56 Rep. Small-Eastman
00:53:24 Mr. Clairmont
00:53:35 Rep. Small-Eastman
00:54:04 Sen. Cocchiarella
00:56:44 Rep. Small-Eastman
00:57:08 Mr. Jordan
00:57:15 Rep. Small-Eastman
00:57:48 Mr. Jordan
00:59:21 Rep. Barrett
01:01:44 Rep. Malcolm
01:03:28 Mr. Brastrup
01:06:04 Rep. Small-Eastman
01:06:40 Mr. Pryor
01:08:56 Rep. Ingraham
01:09:11 Mr. Harris
01:10:31 Rep. Ingraham
01:10:42 Mr. Harris

Closing by Sponsor:

01:11:16 Sen. Cocchiarella

HEARING ON SB 136

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:12:02 Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 136, Revise meeting frequency for Board of Veteran's Affairs.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:13:26 Joe Foster, Veteran's Affairs Administrator

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:13:56 Sen. Tropila

HEARING ON SB 117

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:14:39 Sen. John Cobb (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 117,
Provide that the state pays costs involved in certain
election challenges.

EXHIBIT(sth52a03)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

01:20:41 Mark Simonich, Secretary of State's Office

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:27:08 Rep. Wilmer
01:27:21 Mr. Simonich
01:28:38 Rep. Wilmer
01:29:15 Mr. Simonich

Closing by Sponsor:

01:29:20 Sen. Cobb

HEARING ON SB 181

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:29:55 Sen. John Cobb (R), SD 9, opened the hearing on SB 181,
Revise deadlines for write-in candidates to conform to
mail election timelines.

EXHIBIT(sth52a04)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:33:20 Rep. Ingraham

01:34:09 Sen. Cobb

Closing by Sponsor:

01:34:18 Sen. Cobb

01:34:41 Break

02:03:35 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 136

02:04:34 **Motion:** Rep. Hendrick moved that **SB 136 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:05:02 Rep. Dickenson

02:05:56 Rep. Hendrick

02:07:36 **Vote:** Motion that **SB 136 BE CONCURRED IN** carried unanimously by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Sales, Caferro, Wilmer and Barrett voted by proxy. Rep. Hendrick will carry SB 136.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 797

02:09:13 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **HB 797 DO PASS.**

02:09:42 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **HB 797 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(sth52a05)

Discussion:

02:10:32 Rep. Ankney

02:11:57 Sheri Heffelfinger

02:12:39 **Vote:** Motion that **HB 797 BE AMENDED** carried unanimously by voice vote, 18-0. Reps. Sales, Wilmer and Barrett voted by proxy.

02:13:28 **Motion:** Rep. Ankney moved that **HB 797 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

02:13:46 Rep. Phillips
02:13:54 Rep. Ankney
02:14:06 Rep. Phillips
02:14:56 Rep. Wilmer
02:15:03 Rep. Olson
02:15:08 Rep. Ingraham
02:18:19 Rep. Ankney
02:18:31 Rep. Ingraham
02:19:38 Rep. Ankney
02:19:51 Rep. Ingraham
02:20:25 Rep. Ankney
02:20:41 Rep. Ingraham
02:21:22 Rep. Ankney
02:21:32 Rep. Wilmer
02:21:41 Chairman Himmelberger
02:21:49 Ms. Heffelfinger
02:22:54 Rep. Ingraham
02:23:42 Rep. Ankney
02:24:41 Rep. Wilmer

02:25:27: Motion that **HB 797 DO PASS AS AMENDED** carried by roll call vote, 13-5. Reps. Himmelberger, Ingraham, Jones Malcolm and Hendrick voted no. Reps. Sales and Barrett voted by proxy.

Additional Exhibit:

Document pertaining to HB 359, Hearing Date 03/12/07

[EXHIBIT](#)(sth52a06)

ADJOURNMENT

02:27:45 Adjournment

REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sth52aad.pdf](#))